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**MEMORANDUM**

**PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY- CLEVELAND, TN**

**AUGUST 1, 2012**

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Meeting 3 Cleveland, TN 10:00 AM - 10:25 AM

Commissioner Julie McPeak  
Larry Knight  
Chlora Lindley-Myers  
Christopher Garrett  
Charlie Schneider  
Sheila Burke

Approximately 20 in attendance
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Introduction, Commissioner Julie McPeak, greetings on behalf of Governor Haslam.

Senator Mike Bell present.

**1) June Griffen-** Rhea County Tea Party

*Focus:* Article 1 section 2 of Tennessee Constitution. Opposed to any attempt to implement ACA.

Restrain IRS from collection of any penalties, resents being forced to buy insurance. Noted is escarole available for car insurance (\$60,000) instead of buying coverage.

Hopes this is a real hearing. She is a Christian, we should depend on God and Bible. "I will not be forced."

**2) Robert Main-** CEO Siskin Rehabilitation Hospital- Chattanooga, TN (has submitted written comments as well)

*Focus:* Rehab care

## MEMORANDUM

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Disabled are the largest minority population in US. Rehabilitation included in ACA- for acute care. Needs to expand to cover those in rehabilitation hospitals. Must include post-acute care.

Critical benefits should include Durable Medical Equipment, outpatient rehab, HH, PT.

Federal employee plan (FEHBP)/Medicaid- all cover inpatient and outpatient. State of Tennessee does not cover under Medicaid.

April 2011 published a study/DOL on American Medical Rehabilitation Providers and found study inadequate. Only noted PT in rehabilitation. Inpatient/outpatient scope of services- wholly inadequate, most insurance companies do not cover inpatient/outpatient rehabilitation. Wants benefits included.

### **3) Stacy Griffen-**

*Focus:* Opposed to being required to buy insurance

Wants to be able to be exempt from requirement. Disappointed in Governor not opposing coverage.

### **4) BW Ruffner, M.D.-** Past President of Tennessee Medical Association

*Focus:* Pharmacy

Very grateful for work on side by side.  
United HealthCare, HMO, and BCBS - drugs covered by rider.

Pre-certification seems to be required for a number of drugs but difficult to acquire.

- a. TennCare allowed drugs for
  - 2 brand name and 3 generic per month.
  - Additional long list of other drugs.

- b. Critical for patients to know of providers in networks of plans. Website needs to be current on who is participating. Important to know both primary care and specialists in networks and accepting patients.

- c. Actuarial value may reflect limits on services- they believe even bronze should be no less than EHB in benchmark plan.

### **5) Susan Fuchs-** Co-President Chattanooga Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

*Focus:* Importance in nutrition/dietician services